

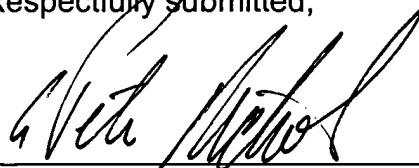
REMARKS

In the last office action mailed March 17, 2003, all the pending claims were rejected as being unpatentable in view of US 6,432,547 to Kroll. In view of the present amendment and following remarks, Applicants believe that the presently pending claims are patentable.

The present film includes a biodegradable polymer and a water soluble polymer and the film has been stretched to provide certain water vapor transmission rates and elongation at break properties. Nowhere does Kroll mention or suggest a stretched film that provides certain water vapor transmission rates and elongation at break properties. Accordingly, Kroll cannot render obvious the presently claimed film.

Applicants believe the present claims are allowable and respectfully request allowance of the application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4276 to resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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